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ON THE GENERIC NAME OF THE TUNNY.

BY DAVID STARR JORDAN.

In the first edition of the *Règne Animal*, 1817, pp. 313, 314, the generic names, *Thynnus* and *Orcynus*, were proposed for the Tunnies. The former name was given to the short-finned tunnies, type *Scomber thynnus* L., and the latter to the species with long, ribbon-shaped pectorals, type *Scomber germo* Lac.=*Scomber alatunga* (*alalonga*) Gmelin.

It has been generally agreed that these two groups are generically identical. Many European writers have continued to use the name *Thynnus* for both, although this name was much earlier preempted, by Fabricius, for a genus of Insects.

The name *Orcynus* is however also preoccupied having been proposed by Rafinesque in 1815, in his worthless "*Analyse de la Nature*," as a substitute for *Scombroides* Lacépède.

According to current rules of nomenclature, the group of Tunnies is left without a tenable generic name. I therefore propose the name *Albacora*, for the group of which *Scomber thynnus* is the type, this species being with others, widely known as *Albacore*. The subgenus or genus distinguished by the elongate pectorals may be called *Germo*, its types being *Sc. alalonga* Gmelin.